

Embassy of the United States of America Madrid, Spain

MADRID METRO AND EMT BUS STRIKE PLANNED FOR SEPTEMBER 28 AND OCTOBER 1, 2012

Planned and spontaneous demonstrations take place in Spain regularly, especially in Madrid and Barcelona, in response to economic or other events. If you encounter a large public gathering or demonstration, the U.S. Embassy suggests that you avoid the area. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

Trains on the Madrid Metro system will operate at only 42% of usual services between 6.00 and 8.00 in the morning and at 34% between 18.00 and 20.00 hours in the afternoon due to a strike called by unions.

The Municipal Transport Company (EMT) bus workers unions have agreed to a stoppage between 12.00 am and 2.00 am, and like the Metro, to minimum services between 6.00 and 8.00 am, and 18.00 and 20.00 hours.

People traveling to and from their place of employment can expect transportation problems and vehicular traffic could be intense.

Possible conflicts could arise from picket lines, at bus stops or at metro stations.

The U.S. Embassy encourages U.S. citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad," which includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad. All U.S. citizens in Spain are urged to enroll online at the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). Enrolling gives U.S. Citizens access to updated information on travel and security within Spain and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency. You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips. Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or a regular toll line at-1-202-501-4444 for callers from other

countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs website</u>, which contains the current <u>Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts</u> as well as the <u>Worldwide Caution</u> as well as <u>Country Specific Information for Spain</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on <u>Facebook</u> as well.

Following are the contact numbers of our Embassy in Madrid, as well as the Consulate General in Barcelona. All contact numbers and addresses are also available on our website.

U.S. Embassy Madrid Calle Serrano 75 28006 Madrid

Telephone: (34) 91 587 2240

After-hours emergencies: (34) 91 587 2355

E-mail: askacs@state.gov

U.S. Consulate General Barcelona Paseo Reina Elisenda de Montcada, 23 08034 Barcelona

Telephone: (34) 93 280 22 27

After-hours emergencies: (34) 91 587 2355

E-mail: <u>Barcelonaacs@state.gov</u>